

## Additional Local.

### "Exit Electric Light."—The Company's Side.

ED. TRUE NORTHERNER: The article in your last issue announcing the passage of an ordinance by the village board annulling the contract and franchises granted to the Paw Paw Electric Light Co., for lighting the streets by electricity, we cannot in justice to ourselves suffer to pass without giving a full exposure to the public.

We imply no censure to the NORTHERNER, for we conclude that the article was based upon items furnished to the editor by some of the members of the board who from the commencement of the lighting service have been aggressively hostile and often mendacious.

It is a fact well known to most of our citizens, but perhaps not to all, that in the fall of 1890 a ten years' contract was entered into between the persons composing the electric light company and the village of Paw Paw, for lighting the streets by electricity, and the necessary franchises granted for carrying out the work. The papers were drawn by Mr. Goss, the then village attorney, and duly executed—upon the one part by the electric light company and upon the other by all members of the village board. In article 1 of this contract, which contains the gist of the agreements, we find the following stipulations: "The party of the first part agrees to furnish to the party of the second part 16 full standard arc lamps of nominal 2000 candle power each, of the Western Electric system, for lighting the streets of Paw Paw for the space of ten years, for the sum of \$1000 per year to be paid in twelve equal monthly payments."

Also to give a lighting service with each of said lamps from early dusk until midnight during the entire term of this contract, except when the moon's light shall render the same unnecessary." Art. 2 provides that the village shall take and use said lamps and pay for the same, as specified in Art. 1. This is the substance of the contract. The balance of the article merely provides for the carrying out of the requirements of Art. 1—for the protection of the plant and regulating commercial and domestic lighting.

After this contract was executed one of the parties interested in stocking the plant, believing the "Western Electric" was not a good system, and if put in would prove unsatisfactory both to the public and the electric company, and further that the board had been imposed upon by the agent of that company (who by the way was one of the sharpest men that travel and whose specialty was to "work" innocent and credulous boards), went before the next board meeting and strongly urged them to strike from the contract the words "Western Electric" and insert in their place "some standard system," which would allow the company to fully investigate all systems, and when ready to purchase order none but the best. This request the board flatly refused and insisted upon the fulfillment of the contract. Here the matter dropped, and the W. E. dynamo and lamps were purchased against the better judgment of the company. But the board had insisted and the company was bound by the contract. This apparatus was of the low-tension type, a style even then out of use among many of our best electricians, having been largely replaced by high-tension goods. The arguments used by the agent were that high-tension electrical machinery was exceedingly dangerous, while low-tension was comparatively safe. The board in their blisful innocence and zeal for the welfare of the people, had become so fixed in their decision that no amount of argument could move them. So fearful were they of casualties that we well remember hearing one of them exclaim at the meeting that "if electricity was to be used he did not want any wires on his side of the street." Well, the dynamo and lamps were put in and the current turned on, but the lighting service proved to be just what the company had expected. The light was unsteady, flickered violently, jumped up and down, hissed and fried, and that system always does. Our citizens began to "kick," and after several months the city fathers discovered that traveling men were not always what they seemed, and that they had been duped. But they got what they bargained for, and refused to have changed when opportunity offered, and which they had accepted from the company by official ordinance, and with no one to blame but themselves. Had they listened to our suggestion and desired a more modern system at first would have been installed and the public better served.

After continuing the low-tension system five or six months an arrangement was made between the company and the board, giving permission to the company to pull out the Western Electric apparatus and put in place the Sperry Edison system, which we considered then the best in use. Based upon this permission a new dynamo and lamps were contracted for with the state agent, to be delivered in 30 days. Upon sending this contract forward to the general office we were informed the machine could not be delivered under 90 days, as they were behind with their orders. Meantime we were temporarily shut down for repairs, as we had a right to be under the contract. Immediately after the news of the delay the offer was made the village board, through the recorder, that the Western Electric would be put upon duty again if the board so desired until the new one came; that when it arrived it be placed on trial and the board could take their choice between the two. The recorder subsequently stated that he had laid the matter before the board but that no action was taken thereon; and we are not informed that any has ever been taken since. The Western Electric dynamo and lamps were in perfect order then, at the power house, have been all of the time since, and are ready upon call of the board to do all of the work required by the contract. They were suspended by consent of the board and they know it; they also know that nothing but their own disposition to find fault and obstruct the lighting service has prevented the streets at all times from being lighted with the stuff they contracted for. This explanation will we think be sufficient reason why as the board complain that for "nearly or quite three or four months during the worst season of the year our streets were in darkness." If any blame attaches let the board enlighten the public as to where it belongs. A redeeming feature which taxpayers will appreciate is that we made no charge for the darkness.

### EXPERTS AND SUCH LIKE.

In regard to the expert summoned by

the board at unheard of expense, to test the efficacy of our lamps, we have something to say. He was not from Philadelphia as you say, but from Ann Arbor, and claimed to be Ass't Professor of Mech. Eng., U. of M. Public rumor says he was a student there. However that might be, like nearly all professors, he was more of the theorist than the practical. When visiting our power house where we had three dynamo standing, he did not seem to know one system from another. One of the instruments he used for tests—the photometer (light measurer)—was a home-made, greased paper, "tallow dip" arrangement, a very clumsy concern; and the only redeeming quality of the high-priced tests he made with it was that after embodying them in his lengthy reports, he states therein that he does not place much reliance upon them. This admission does away of course with the legal force of his tests, and would cause them to be thrown out of any court of record. We dismiss them as unworthy of further discussion.

As to the other tests made by an ammeter (current measurer), an instrument used to measure the volume of electrical currents as thrown off by the generator, we desire to say that the first tests were made, according to his report, upon the night of March 30th last—very wet, rainy night—between 10 and 12 o'clock, when only the 16 street lamps were on. Previously there had been severe snow and sleet storms, bending down and otherwise disarranging the limbs of trees through which the circuit wires pass. These wires, whipping against the limbs, had in many places become abraded of their insulating coating and these dripping wet limbs had become most effective conductors, taking the electricity from the wires to the ground, thereby depriving the lamps of their normal supply. The ammeter tests only showed the amount of current remaining in the wires, and not that which had passed into the ground. At this test, imperfect as it was, his ammeter reading showed only a loss of lighting efficiency of 23 per cent. below the normal current necessary to give 2000 c. p. light.

The second test was made on the night of March 31st—a clear, starlight night, with treetops dried off. No better night perhaps in the whole year could have been selected (except in times of severe drought) for fair and honest tests. Upon this night, his report says, "there were 23 lamps turned on." Six tests were made that night at intervals of about ten minutes each, and the average of his ammeter reading showed a loss of only 34 per cent. of current from actual, not nominal, 2000 c. p. capacity. In all of the tests made no allowance was made for line wire resistance, which all practical electricians would have done, and which he would have done had he been a practical electrician. This resistance or leakage, according to some of the best electrical experts whom we consulted in Chicago, is fully 10 per cent. in our circuit. This admitted, his second night's tests would have given us 64 excess above actual 2000 c. p. and a lighting service of 2070 c. p.; with 70 c. p. per lamp more than our contract calls for. Adding the resistance to the first (rainy) night's showing and the net loss would be 13 per cent. Averaging the ammeter readings of the two nights, which we deem unfair owing to the physical conditions of the first night, and allowing nothing for resistance, after the manner of the professor, we find only a loss of 13 1/2 per cent., and not 20 per cent., as members of the board claim. Should we average the two nights' test allowing for resistance, we find that the account would stand: first night, wet, loss 33 per cent.; second night, dry, excess 64 per cent.—average net loss for both nights, 64 per cent., which is as near the standard ratings of all kinds of machinery as practical workings will admit. How is this for "20 per cent. loss under the most favorable circumstances," as members of the village board informed you?

Somebody has not taken warning by the fate of Annanias. If these men, as a portion of the village board, are "representing the people," as a portion of the people we desire to be counted out. We do not believe that they do represent the people in this, as in most other matters they do not, and at the next election the people will see that they are securely and permanently "turned down."

The above statements are not ours, but taken from the report of their own high-priced expert, whom our taxpayers will soon enough have to put up for. Another expert has been here—a gentleman sent by the Edison General Electric company—one of their own men—not a college student, but a practical electrician, and he made the statement in presence of several gentlemen, among whom, if we mistake not, was the present village attorney, that the lamps as then burning, with 29 turned on, were giving off a candle power of 2200 efficiency—200 c. p. per lamp more than the contract required.

A word in regard to our dynamo capacity. Being advised by board members, you say that we "were trying to supply 26 lamps from a 20-light dynamo." This statement is incorrect, and we again refer these gentlemen to the tragic fate of Annanias. The Western Electric dynamo, first in use here, was a 25-lighter, but the Sperry-Edison, as we shall furnish the proof at the proper time, is a 30-lighter. With the full load of 30 lamps it gives the same candle power per lamp as when carrying but one. Their own high-priced expert in his report makes the amount of electricity generated by the dynamo 194 per cent more when 23 lamps are on than when only 16. The fact is, that when running at its normal capacity, with any number up to 30, the efficiency of each lamp will be the same, as shown by the ammeter upon the switch board in our power house. Any electrician is welcome there to see for himself.

Have we fulfilled our contract agreements in placing lamps of 2000 candle power upon the streets of Paw Paw and in "giving a lighting service from said lamps?" Quoting from their own expert's report, he says: "The streets of Paw Paw are lighted by 16 arc lamps of 2000 nominal candle power each. The lamps are of the Edison-Sperry system," etc. All this we knew before from our own tests, but with the report before them, the minutes of the board ought certainly, after paying out so much of the people's money for it, to show it a reasonable respect.

The expert, in concluding his report, gives to the board several sticks of very fine taffy, for which the tax-payer will probably have to pay extra. Soon sizing up the calibre of each individual, he found that they desired a report ad-

verse to the interests of the electric company, and that he was sent for to do the dirty work. Finding the plant all right, he could not well report it otherwise, so, leaving his scientific investigations, he turns to the contract and constitutes himself legal adjudicator. Reeling off his opinions, he says that on the night of March 30 he found the lamps (this was the wet night) gave 33 per cent less than the contract calls for; and that on the 31st of March 34 per cent less than the contract calls for, herein assuming the prerogatives both of electrician and legal advisor. Had he read the contract with more care he could have seen that no per cent of light was called for. It merely says that "a lighting service shall be given from each of said lamps," and we have always construed it to mean as near 2000 candle power as the proper machinery can reasonably be operated. This we have done. Lamps of contract capacity have at all times been in use upon the streets, and have at all times been run to their full rated capacity, as near as the most perfect machinery could make them. The law of contracts requires no more. We have been assiduous and vigilant in caring for imperfect work. Not a lamp, either upon the streets or in private use, when working imperfectly, but has been chased up and adjusted at once, if possible, a new one supplied, or it was taken to the power house and repaired. In one instance as many as five imperfect arc lamps were taken from the streets and replaced with others from the house where purchased. To the uninitiated, the oversight of generating and conducting electricity for economic purposes seems but an easy task; but the fluid is so subtle and mysterious, the machinery necessary so complicated, delicate and sensitive, that even the most expert and experienced operators are frequently at fault and fail of success. But we find everywhere ignorant assumption arrogating the position of erite, while philosophic knowledge and trained skill occupy the seat of modesty.

In conclusion we say that, in making this contract for public lighting, we were actuated by good faith, and in good faith we have endeavored to perform it. Requiring a large amount of capital to install the necessary machinery, we have spared no expense in giving to our people the best equipped little plant in the state. The apparatus is all new, with the very latest modern improvements which human ingenuity and skill could furnish, and has all been made since the contract was signed; our water power for running it is the best in the country; our electrician is a first-class operator, having been seven years with the Sperry electric company of Chicago; the utmost vigilance has been exercised in supervising its workings; nearly or quite every intelligent citizen of the place is pleased with the service and only find fault because the board will not give us more of it; tax-payers are no grumblers, and consider it the only convenience and luxury which is eliminated from the wreck of the enormous waste of money with which this tax-ridden village is weighted down, and the only kickers are the village board and a small per cent of their more ignorant "strikers." Having read out our contract agreements, and satisfying the people, we do most assuredly expect that the village council will perform theirs, and we shall hold them strictly thereto. Should heavy expense and burdensome taxation result from litigation, the blame certainly will not be ours.

### PAW PAW ELECTRIC LIGHT & POWER COMPANY.

#### Marriage Licenses.

1332—Harry A. Baldwin, 23, and Josie Chapman, 21, both of Paw Paw.  
1333—E. C. Crisfield, 25, and Gertrude L. Parkhurst, 20, both of Decatur.  
1334—Jed Williams, 23, of Pine Grove, and Maud Farrand, 20, of Otsego.  
1335—Jas. Woodhouse, 21, of Waverly and Hattie Goodrich, 18, of Breedsville.  
1336—Milo Youells, 30, and Mary Canning, 28, both of Hamilton.

#### Business Brevities.

For bargains in furniture, go to E. L. Goodale's. See adv. to-day.

An immense line of night shirts now on sale at Sellick's. Price 50c.

Snow Bros. are putting one of their improved hot-air furnaces into the residence of S. H. Jones.

J. H. Waters & Co. have a word to say to those contemplating building this fall. See their adv. in this paper.

#### New Suits.

Lewis F. Hubbard vs. Alta C. Hubbard; replevin.

A large number of newspaper correspondents from southwestern Michigan gathered in Marcellus Wednesday of last week to organize an association for the mutual benefit of correspondents and advancement in newspaper work. In the evening the organization was perfected and the following officers elected: President, John T. Burns, Kalamazoo; secretary, Mattie E. Squiers, Penn; assistant secretary, Mrs. Charles Krum, Schoolcraft; treasurer, Miss Maggie Smith, Otsego. The organization will be known as the Newspaper Correspondents' association of southwestern Michigan. Messrs. White and Shearer of Marcellus, and J. Heddon of Dowagiac were elected an advisory committee, and the president and secretary and Mrs. Alice Lambert, Vandalia, Eugene Glass, Battle Creek, and W. H. Lee of Marcellus were appointed a committee on by-laws. A meeting will be held in Schoolcraft in November next.

There is a great racket in Alabama over the throwing out of whole precincts in estimating the result of the election. The reason there is a racket about it is that the votes thrown out are those of white men and Democrats.

"Mr. Speaker, where was I at?" is a question that the entire Democratic majority in the present Congress might ask. Neither the Speaker nor any one else could answer the question.

#### Antwerp Republican Caucus.

The Republican electors of Antwerp will hold a caucus at the Town Hall in Lawton on Thursday, August 25th, at 2 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of choosing eleven delegates to the county convention to be held at Lawton Sept. 7th; also, eleven delegates to the representative convention to be held at Hartford August 27th. BY ORDER COM.

## The Allegan Convention.

Hon. J. J. Woodman can well be proud of the support he received at the Congressional convention recently held at Allegan. For one hundred and forty-six ballots he received 34 votes out of the 40 needed to nominate, and on one or two ballots 37. But the fates dictated that he was not to be the choice and on the 147th ballot Dr. Henry F. Thomas of Allegan was nominated.

Judge B. F. Heckert, presented the name of Mr. Woodman, regarding which the Allegan Gazette says: Judge B. F. Heckert of Paw Paw stepped forward in behalf of Hon. J. J. Woodman and made what was on the whole the best speech of the lot. He had not the grace of tone of Mr. Valentine, but a rugged earnestness compensated fully for lack of oratorical finish. Mr. Woodman, he said, had been identified with Michigan since 1835. You can tell by the date that I present you no spring chicken! [Laughter.] He has helped build up one of the richest agricultural counties of the state, one of the most beautiful spots on earth. He was under the oaks at Jackson and helped organize a party that in twenty-five years made more grand history than has ever been made since the organization of this government. Mr. Woodman's name was on the Lincoln ticket in 1860; he has been six terms a member of the legislature and twice speaker of the house; he was chairman of the military committee of the house and as such held up the hands of the war governor, Austin Blair; he helped enact the law that gave soldiers in the field the right to vote. For six years he was at the head of the state grange and for six more at that of the national grange, P. of H. In 1878, President Hayes made him one of our commissioners of agriculture to the Paris exposition, and he was one of the four such commissioners for Michigan at the Centennial, and by high authority was said to have written the best and most scholarly report of any agricultural commissioner of the whole Union. Mr. Woodman has been at all times a Republican; he is allied to and understands all the interests of the district; he can not be run in any rut, but is broad enough to comprehend and aid all interests. He is 500 votes stronger in Van Buren, and 2,000 in the district, than any man this convention can name. At the 147th ballot, when Barry added his ten votes, St. Joseph's twelve and Cass its ten for Thomas, Mr. Heckert said: "Van Buren feels disappointed in not getting her choice, but she changes her votes to Henry F. Thomas. There are upon us no sores."

Mr. Hamilton had on a Thomas badge and, pointing to it, said: "Do you see that badge? That's the kind of man I am, and my friends are of the same sort. It does not matter to me where I am placed, whether in the front or rear, so long as I am under the old flag."

In accepting the situation Mr. Woodman said: "There are events in our lives that cause us doubt whether to rejoice or to be regretful, and to me this is one such. I am no sorehead; there are no sores anywhere here. I was not a candidate by my own seeking, but at the request of the Republicans of my county, and I came here to accept the result without heartburnings." He continued several minutes in a vigorous statement of the Republican position in this campaign and urged his fellow-partisans to earnest work. At his closing he was again heartily cheered.

Hon. Hugh McCurdy of Cornua was elected Grand Master of the Knights Templar of the United States at the recent convocation held in Denver, Col.

May McManigal, of Fish Lake, near Marcellus, was twice bitten by a rattlesnake. Her legs were swollen badly, but it is thought that she will recover.

Louis Hanselman was only 4 years old and so didn't know poison ivy berries were not currants. He died after a week's agony at Ann Arbor from the poison.

A West Michigan train and a cow collided at Benton Harbor. Both went into the ditch—13 cars of the former and all of the latter. It took 12 hours to untangle them.

H. T. Welch, the veteran of Co. K, Eighth Michigan Infantry who started on July 1 to push a wheelbarrow from Mt. Pleasant, Mich., to Washington, reached the latter city at noon on Saturday last.

The twenty-third annual reunion of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland will take place on the battle field of Chickamauga on the 15th and 16th of Sept., being the week before the National Encampment at Washington. Half fare on all railroads.

Try Dullam's Great German 15 cent Liver Pils, 40 in each package. For sale by Longwell Bros.

## Low Rate Harvest Excursions.

The announcement that the Northwestern Line, comprising over 8,000 miles of thoroughly equipped railway, has arranged to run two low rate Harvest Excursions during the months of August and September, will be gladly received by those who are interested in the development of the great West and Northwest, as well as by those who desire to visit this wonderfully productive region at a season of the year when exact demonstration can be made of the merits and advantages it offers to home seekers and those in search of safe and profitable investments.

These excursions will leave Chicago on August 30 and Sept. 27, and tickets can be purchased at the very low rate of one fare for the round trip to points in Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho and Montana. They will be strictly first-class in every particular and will be good for return passage at any time within twenty days from date of purchase. Full information concerning rates and arrangements for these excursions can be obtained upon application to any coupon ticket agent, or to W. A. Thrall, G. P. T. A., Chicago & North-Western Ry., Chicago. [51]

A wideawake farmer's wife of Cass county has purchased a year's supply of groceries for a family of five with the money obtained from selling the eggs of 40 hens.

## VERY MUCH SURPRISED.

I have been afflicted with neuralgia for nearly two years, have tried physicians and all known remedies but found no permanent relief until I tried a bottle of Dullam's Great German Liniment, and it gave me instant and permanent relief. 25 cents per bottle. Signed, Hamilton, Mich., April 11, 1891. A. B. SNELL. For sale by Longwell Bros.

## THE COLORS OF WATER.

### A Simple Object Lesson That Proved Interesting to a Child.

"Is it not true, grandpa, that water has no color?"

"Yes, dear child, it is blue, but so little so that you cannot see it."

"Can you see that it is blue?"

"No, but still it is blue. Look at this."

I took a little ultramarine on the end of the brush and mixed it with water. "Does it look blue now?"

"No; I see nothing."

"Nor I. But you saw how I put a little blue color in it with the brush."

"Yes, but there was not enough of it. Put more in."

I silently took the glass and set it on a piece of white paper in the bright sunshine. "Now look from above down into it."

"It is blue," said the little one, clapping her hands, "but only a very little."

"Look at it from the other side, where the sun is shining into it. Is it not a little bit red, like the bell flowers which you picked yesterday?"

"That is wonderful," said the little one. "It is blue from above, a little bit red in the sun, and when we look at it from this side of the room we see nothing!"

"Think about it a little. The glass is as broad as my finger is long. But it is at least three times as high as my finger. When you look at it from the side, you see only a finger's length of water; but when you look down into it, you see through three fingers' length of water—three times as much. You see it blue from the side, and three times as blue from above, don't you?"

"Is that really true?" said the little one, as she measured with her finger. She nodded that she was satisfied.

"Now imagine that the water is as deep as the height of the church steeple, and deeper—that it reaches from here up into Salvan and down to Vernayaz. Then you would see the water from above it all blue."

"Is the lake, then, really so deep?"

"Yes, and deeper."

I will not continue the conversation any longer. I went on with various simple experiments, beginning with differently colored stones, which I let drop into the water, and then placed on the white, then with setting the glass with its weakly bluish contents on differently colored papers, and ended with my trying to make the children perceive how the colors changed when they were seen through the whole depth of the glass. I will not say that the little ones were brought to a full comprehension of the matter, but they struck fast to the assertion that water is blue, of an infinitely weak blue, and that the blue color cannot be seen till one looks into a certain depth of it.—Carl Vogt in Popular Science Monthly.

### Search Lights versus Torpedo Boats.

It is stated that one of the most effective means of protecting a ship in these days of torpedoes (the grouping together of a number of stationary search lights, each illuminating its own section so that the ship is surrounded by an unbroken circle of light), is to be adopted in the new American warships. This has been suggested by a very pronounced defect in the usual search light practice. In order to afford sufficient time for a careful examination of the water's surface at points removed from the ship, the beam of light must be revolved very slowly, and hence during a great portion of the time any particular section of the water is left in darkness. As it takes only five minutes for a torpedo boat to run a distance of two miles, it will be seen that the conditions are all in favor of the attacking force. Before the revolution of the search light is completed there is plenty of time for the torpedo boat to run up and discharge her deadly weapons.—New York Telegram.



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"To that store, of course. All are flocking there, and if I don't get there soon I'll lose my chance. Delays are dangerous, and if I am not on hand soon the bargains will be all gone, the cheapest stock in the city exhausted, and I shall make a dead loss of it if compelled to go elsewhere for clothing."

"That's a fact; and as I am rather out at the elbows, I'll go along, too. As the old proverb says, a sixpence saved is worth ninepence you haven't got, so I will make the most of my money, and buy at Smith's."

And sure enough, they did, and saved 25 per cent. by having their eye teeth cut and knowing a thing or two.

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